

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the present amendment and in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are pending. In the present amendment, 1, 2, and 4-7 are currently amended, Claim 3 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and no claims are added herewith.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to; Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hamachi (Japanese Publication No. 2004-189358) in view of Spitz et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2005/0099288, hereinafter “Spitz”); and Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hamachi in view of Spitz, and further in view of Yamanouchi (Japanese Publication No. 2003-118967).

With respect to the objection to the drawings, Claim 7 is amended to no longer recite “display stopping information.” Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the drawings show every feature of the claimed invention and it is respectfully requested that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

In light of the outstanding grounds for rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claimed invention, thereby to more clearly patentably define over the cited prior art. To that end, amended Claim 1 has been amended to include features of canceled Claim 3 and recites, inter alia, “said plurality of monitoring points include an entrance of an escalator, an exit of the escalator, or a location between said entrance and said exit.” Claim 1 has been further amended to clarify the monitoring request to recite: “said accumulated image data display device discriminates among said plurality of monitoring points installed at the escalator in response to the monitoring request which includes the escalator to be supervised and one piece of information regarding reproduction start date and

time.” Support for this latter change to Claim 1 is provided, for example, in the specification at page 9, lines 8-13, for example. No new matter has been added.

In light of the clarification provided to Claim 1, Claim 1 is believed to be patentably distinguishing over the cited prior art, next discussed.

Specifically, Hamachi discusses a conventional elevator monitoring device that displays an operation state and a video image of an elevator when an abnormality or operating condition malfunction occurs. A first monitor 7a displays the operation state of the elevator while a second monitor 7b displays the corresponding video image. However, according to Hamachi, since there is only one camera installed in the elevator car, there is only one image displayed on the supervisory monitor 7b along with the operating condition, when a user selects an elevator to be supervised. Generally, in shopping malls or the like in which there are elevators and escalators, there are a plurality of cameras installed at the escalator (i.e. at an entrance or exit of the escalator or a location therebetween). Thus, it is respectfully submitted that in the device of Hamachi, when a malfunction occurs at the escalator, it is impossible to immediately search for the cause and location of the malfunction because only one image is displayed on the supervisory monitor 7b. When a user selects a target elevator or escalator to be surveyed, it would be necessary to identify and cycle through images of all of the installed cameras at the escalator to identify the location of the malfunction.

Although paragraph [0050] of Hamachi discusses that a display control means 107c “divides a screen into two or more fields, and displays two or more images in a basket simultaneously,” Hamachi does not disclose or suggest that the display of two or more images simultaneously occurs as a result of a user-initiated monitoring request as described in Claim 1. Further, it is respectfully submitted that paragraphs [0048]-[0051] of Hamachi, cited by the Official Action as disclosing that the two or more images displayed

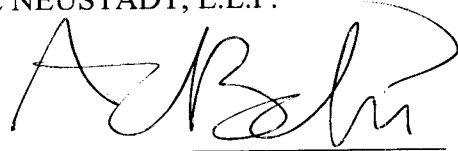
simultaneously are synchronized with each other, do not discuss this feature. Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that Spitz and Yamanouchi do not cure the deficiencies of Hamachi. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claim 1, and all claims dependent thereon, be withdrawn.

Claim 4 depends on Claim 1, and thus is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1. As noted above, it is respectfully submitted that Yamanouchi does not cure the above-noted deficiencies of Hamachi and Spitz. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Claim 4 be allowed.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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